## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for speech synthesis, said method implemented on the handheld device and comprising:

receiving a spoken utterance;

extracting one or more prosodic parameters from the spoken utterance;

~~decoding~~ performing speech recognition on the spoken utterance to ~~provide~~ generate a recognized word;

from the recognized word that is generated from the speech recognition, synthesizing a nominal word ~~corresponding to the recognized word~~;

~~temporally aligning the spoken utterance and the nominal word;~~ and

generating a prosodic mimic word from ~~using~~ the synthesized nominal word and the extracted one or more prosodic parameters, wherein generating the prosodic mimic also involves temporally aligning the synthesized nominal word with the spoken utterance.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more prosodic parameters include pitch.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more prosodic parameters include timing.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more prosodic parameters include energy.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising temporally aligning phones of the spoken utterance and phones of the nominal word.

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7. (Original)  The method of claim 1, further comprising converting the prosodic mimic word into a corresponding audio signal.

8. (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the spoken utterance is received by a telephone input device and the prosodic mimic word is provided to a telephone output device.

9. (Currently Amended)  A <u>handheld</u> system for speech synthesis, <u>said system</u> comprising:

an audio input device that receives a spoken utterance;

a signal processor that determines one or more prosodic parameters of the spoken utterance;

a ~~decoder~~ <u>speech recognizer</u> that recognizes the spoken utterance and ~~provides~~ <u>generates</u> a corresponding recognized word;

a speech synthesizer that synthesizes a nominal word <u>from</u> ~~corresponding to~~ the recognized word ~~and temporally aligns the spoken utterance and the nominal word~~; and

a prosodic mimic generator that receives the <u>synthesized</u> nominal word and the one or more prosodic parameters and generates a prosodic mimic word <u>therefrom, said prosodic mimic generator also temporally aligning the prosodic mimic word with the spoken utterance.</u>

10. (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 9, wherein the decoder comprises a speech recognition engine.

11. (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 9, wherein the system is disposed on a mobile telephone device.

12. (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 9, further comprising a storage device including executable instructions for speech analysis and processing.

13. (Currently Amended)  A computer readable medium including stored instructions adapted for execution on a processor, <u>said stored instructions</u> including:

instructions for receiving a spoken utterance;

instructions for extracting a prosodic parameter from the spoken utterance;

instructions for ~~decoding~~ <u>recognizing</u> the spoken utterance to ~~provide~~ <u>generate</u> a recognized word;

instructions for synthesizing a nominal word <u>from</u> ~~corresponding to~~ the recognized word;

~~instructions for temporally aligning the spoken utterance and the nominal word; and~~

instructions for generating a prosodic mimic word ~~using~~ <u>from</u> the <u>synthesized</u> nominal word and the prosodic parameter<u>; and</u>

<u>instructions for temporally aligning the prosodic mimic with the spoken utterance</u> .


14. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the medium is disposed within a mobile telephone apparatus and operates in conjunction with a user interface.